(d) whether complaints have been received about the poor quality of the milk emitting smell if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the complaints were investigated and corrective measures taken: and

(f) if so, whether Government propose to review its decision to bring down the prices of milk in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) With effect from 1st February, 1995, the Mother Dairy has revised the consumer prices of milk as below:—

	Rs.
Full Cream Milk . . .	12.50
Toned Milk	8.50
Toned Milk in Polypack .	9 50

The hike in price is on account of increased prices to be paid for procurement of milk and with a view to maintain the viability of operation of Mother Dairy.

(d) and (e) No Sir, there has been no such complaints.

(f) The Mother Dairy is a subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board and they enjoy freedom to determine the sale price of milk.

Declining Investment in Agriculture

1715. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI G. G. SWELL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that capital investment is declining in agriculture;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details about the invtstments in different agriculture related sector;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news item in "The Observer" Daily published on 8th March, 1995 captioned "Farm Sector may be opened up";

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether Government are considering to give contracts to private sector for farming on Government land to boost agricultural production; and

(f) whether Goverment propose to allow farmers to become share holders in the large scale pooled farming in collaboration with the private industrial or investment sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): a) Capital investment in agricultural during the last five years, i.e. since 1988-89 to 1993-94 has not shown decline in trend.

(b) The investment in agriculture related sector increased from Rs. 4347 crores in 1988-89 to Rs. 4695 crores in 1993-94 at constant prices of 1980-81;

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As a part of the policy in Macroeconomic Reforms and trade liberalization, agriculture sector may also received

(e) and (f) As present there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Price control under New Drug Policy

1716. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTLIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the New Drug Policy only 74 medicines have been retained in the price control list

whereas prior to the new policy, there were 345 plus medicines under the control list;

(b) whether it is also a fact that calling of profit margin has also been raised by 4 of the capital employed; and

(c) if so, what measures government contemplates to take to protect the interests of the poor people who are likely to be adversely affected as a result of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir. Under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 there are 76 bulk drugs under price control as against 142 bulk drugs under DPCO. 1987.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The return the investment in case of bulk drugs in genral continues to be at the same rates of 14 per cent on Net worth and 22 per cent on capital employed as under earlier, DPCO'87. However, in caes of basic manufacture provis'on of additional 4 per cent has been made under DPCO' 95 in order to en-courage basic manufacture to reduce dependence on imports and to ensure availability to consumers.

Encouragement to indigenous Research and Development of Drugs

1717. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments have initiated any scheme to encourage indigenous Research and Development in the field of Drugs;

(b) if so, the details of the financial assistance given in this regard; and

(c) the names of bulk drugs exempted from price control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Government have evolved, from time to time fiscal incentives and support measures to encourage R&D in Pharmaceutical Industry. The Planning Commission has made an allocation of Rs. 10 crores during 1994-95 to promote drugs and pharmaceutical research. Recently, the Inter-Ministerial Group set up by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, in pursuance of the modified Drug Policy, has submitted its report to the Government. It has recommended that special package of fiscal incentives may be granted to encourage greater investment in Research and Development in this sctor.

The details of bulk drugs exempted from price control under the DPCO, 1987 is given, in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). Under the Modified Drug Policy, a new drug which has not been produced elsewhere, if developed through indigenous R&D would be exempt from price control for a period of 10 years from the date of commercial production in favour of the company who undertook the R&D.